

definitions were modified including foodborne illness, potentially hazardous food (with respect to garlic in oil), reduced oxygen packaging, and support animal which is now service animal.

(6) Certain food employee-related provisions are modified, such as eliminating the requirement that food employees report travel out of the country, allowances for nurse practitioners and physician assistants to provide medical documentation, and addition of certain duties of the person in charge to reflect a 1996 CFP recommendation that was overlooked in the 1997 Code.

(7) Time and temperature controls are modified specifically for the cooking temperature for hamburger at less than 1 second and for cooking pork, and labeling criteria are added relative to whole-muscle, intact beef steaks which may be cooked rare without a consumer advisory and relative to safe handling instructions for retail operations that package meat and poultry.

(8) Clarification is provided for cleaning and sanitizing utensils and equipment used in food preparation and for refilling consumer containers, used by consumers to dispense condiments, and used in refrigerated preparation areas.

(9) Date marking of ready-to-eat food is augmented to limit the amount of time new food can be added to a container of existing food.

(10) More user aids are provided, such as additional references in Annex 2 and a diagram of the date marking criteria in Annex 7.

(11) Provisions are updated to reflect consistency with the current *Code of Federal Regulations* and other Federal agencies' guidance.

The 1999 revision of the Food Code is available for public examination in the Dockets Management Branch (address above) between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Copies of the 1999 Food Code are available on the World Wide Web at "<http://vm.cfsan.fda.gov/list.html>" or at "<http://www.fedworld.com>". The 1999 Food Code also may be purchased from the National Technical Information Service, U.S. Department of Commerce, Springfield, VA 22161, in several formats: Docutek copy, spiral bound, WordPerfect 6.1 files on diskette, and enhanced electronic version on diskette or on CD-ROM including Adobe Reader. The enhanced versions include electronic features such as hypertext links that enable the reader to quickly access the text of cross-referenced Code provisions or other documents. Other documents include Federal laws and regulations and, in the CD-ROM version,

reference manuals to assist with plan review and HACCP implementation.

Dated: February 10, 1999.

**William K. Hubbard,**

*Associate Commissioner for Policy Coordination.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Food and Drug Administration

#### Blood Products Advisory Committee; Notice of Meeting

**AGENCY:** Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

**ACTION:** Notice.

This notice announces a forthcoming meeting of a public advisory committee of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The meeting will be open to the public.

*Name of Committee:* Blood Products Advisory Committee.

*General Function of the Committee:* To provide advice and recommendations to the agency on FDA's regulatory issues.

*Date and Time:* The meeting will be held on March 25, 1999, 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and March 26, 1999, 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

*Location:* Ramada Inn, Embassy Ballroom, 8400 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda, MD.

*Contact Person:* Linda A. Smallwood, Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (HFM-350), Food and Drug Administration, 1401 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852-1448, 301-827-3514, or FDA Advisory Committee Information Line, 1-800-741-8138 (301-443-0572 in the Washington, DC area), code 19516. Please call the Information Line for up-to-date information on this meeting.

*Agenda:* On March 25, 1999, in the morning, the committee will hear, discuss, and provide comments on an informational presentation on Nucleic Acid Testing of Whole Blood. In the afternoon, the committee will discuss and provide comments on Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) p24 Antigen Testing and Validation of Donor History Questions. On March 26, 1999, the committee will discuss and provide comment on an informational presentation on Clinical Trial Endpoints for Immune Globulin Intravenous and will discuss and provide recommendations on algorithms to address Inadvertent Contamination (with HIV, HBsAg, and/or HCV) of Plasma Pools for Fractionation.

*Procedure:* Interested persons may present data, information, or views, orally or in writing, on issues pending before the committee. Written submissions may be made to the contact person by March 15, 1999. Oral presentations from the public will be scheduled between approximately 10:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.; 1:30 p.m. and 2 p.m.; and 4:30 p.m. and 5 p.m. on March 25, 1999, and between 8:45 a.m. and 9:15 a.m., and 11:30 a.m. and 12 m. on March 26, 1999. Time allotted for each presentation may be limited. Those desiring to make formal oral presentations should notify the contact person before March 15, 1999, and submit a brief statement of the general nature of the evidence or arguments they wish to present, the names and addresses of proposed participants, and an indication of the approximate time requested to make their presentation.

Notice of this meeting is given under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. app. 2).

Dated: February 11, 1999.

**Michael A. Friedman,**

*Deputy Commissioner for Operations.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. 99N-0235]

#### Premarket Notification for Food Contact Substances; Public Meeting

**AGENCY:** Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is announcing the following public meeting: "FDA Implementation of the Notification Process for Food Contact Substances." FDA is seeking comments from industry, consumer groups, and other members of the public prior to formally announcing the availability of guidance documents for the notification program. FDA will consider the comments received as a result of this meeting as the agency develops its plan for implementing the notification process for food contact substances, as well as the guidance documents for the notification program, which will be made available for public comment, at a later date.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on Friday, March 12, 1999, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Submit written comments by March 22, 1999.